

The Point

The Fitchburg State College Newspaper

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Week of January 15-22

Students ablaze about fire alarms

By Julie Jepsen

Fire alarms occur constantly around the campus, more than is needed! As of Aug. 30, 2002, FSC has had approximately fourteen fire alarms in the dormitory buildings. As most of you all know, the dormitories consist of Aubuchon resident halls (380 students), Russell Towers, Herlihy resident halls (150 students), Mara Village (315 students), and the Townhouses (260 students). Among these, Russell Towers has received the most fire alarms by far.

So within a four and a half-month span, Russell Towers as encountered a total of twelve fire alarms. Within the first week of school, Russell Towers had two alarms, being only two days apart from one another. Also, in a matter of three days, Russell had five fire alarms, three of which occurred all on the same day, within a six hour span.

Are students pulling these alarms or are they just malfunctioning? In response to the abundance of fire alarms, FSC student Lisa Iorio said, "Ugh, there are way too many and they are so disruptive."

Jay Bry, the director of Campus Living, stated "Yes, I believe the fire alarms are working properly." Bry was asked why there had been so many fire alarms in Russell Towers. He replied, "I believe they are due to either malfunctions or what we call a series of malicious pulls. These malicious pulls are caused by students purposely either pulling them or causing them to go off."

Next in line for fire alarms is Aubuchon, which has only encountered two. Just keep in mind that the weather isn't always nice, so many students are standing out in the freezing cold for hours. Many students here on campus will say these fire alarms are outrageous. Having to get dragged out of their warm bed at one, two or even three in the morning because of a fire alarm seems outrageous to some students. Then having to stand out in the cold, most of them only in pajamas and possible some only half dressed, in hurry to evacuate the building. Fire alarms are so dreadful, especially this time of the year.

Many students in Aubuchon believe that the



Saved by the bells?

fire alarms are not loud enough to be heard, especially while they are sleeping. If the students claim they can not hear the alarms, will they get punished if they don't evacuate because they didn't hear it go off? Steven Wallace, a student who lives in Aubuchon stated, "No way, they are really soft."

Since there are so many residents in these buildings, it takes a long time to evacuate everyone and check all rooms before students are allowed back in. There are simple procedures that must be followed after an alarm has been set off.

According to Jay Bry, "Once the alarm has been activated, the procedures consist of the students clearing the building as quickly as possible. After the building has been evacuated, it is the FSC's job to maintain the fire crowd. The Police and Fire department must enter the building to make sure it clear. Meanwhile the building director and the RA's must do a room check to make sure all students have left the building, and allow them to return."

The Townhouses and Mara Village have a very low chance of having a fire alarm. The townhouses have only had one fire alarm and out of the seven buildings in Mara Village, there has only been three. Most often, they are never pulled or set off in these buildings. Mara Seven had a fire alarm malfunction on them on Nov. 10, 2002. This is the first time this has happened in slightly over two years.

If students do not evacuate the building during any of the alarms they will also have to go through the judicial process. Bry stated, "Many of the students have been caught and will go through the judicial system to receive their punishment. Punishments can range anything from a simple warning to a basic sanction to removal of housing." Pulling a fire alarm is a serious matter, and students who do so will be punished appropriately.

So let's just all hope that not many alarms will get pulled or malfunction this winter season, so the students of FSC can have a warm winter.

AIDS Memorial Quilt on display at FSC

By Amy S. Bobrowski

FSC is remembering all those affected by AIDS with its display of the AIDS Memorial Quilt. Eighty panels of the 44,000-panel quilt will be on display in the Hammond Campus Center until Sat., Jan. 18. A special dedication service took place on Wed. Those who wish to add to the amazing display may submit their complete panels.

The work of Franklin Sinanan, a Canadian artist, will be on display in the Hammond Art Gallery. Sinanan's exhibit, "A Journey into the Shapes of the Soul," reflects the world of AIDS and HIV. His work will be on display until Jan. 24.

Also coinciding with these two displays is the FSC RememBEARS project. Through this program, stuffed bears and animals will be donated to children of Worcester County whose lives are impacted by AIDS. These children have the disease, have been diagnosed HIV positive, or are children to those that have AIDS.

When the quilt was displayed last year at FSC, the FSC RememBEARS project collected over 300 stuffed animals. The project has received commitments from Gund, Boyds Bears, Vermont Teddy Bears, and Lunenburg WalMart.

The display of the AIDS Memorial Quilt is sponsored by Student Activities and the Hammond

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

"You've got to turn it around."

-My Mom

My parents have four children. With none of us left in the house anymore, my mom seems to be going through the "empty nest syndrome." She still buys groceries and makes meals for six even though she and my dad are the only ones there. Needless to say the cupboard and fridge are always full when I come home.

She talks to each of us kids everyday whether or not anything interesting has transpired since the phone call the previous day. My mother misses us dearly. She is also not too fond of her job. I guess you could say (and she has said) that she had been in a funk the couple days following Christmas when her little girl went back to school and when she had to go back to work.

Everybody is allowed his or her sad days and she certainly had good reason.

One night my mom turned on the news only to find out that in a city near by to our town a housing complex had burned down the day after Christmas. All the families had gathered in a school cafeteria. They had lost everything, even their new Christmas presents. The children had nothing, no new toys to play with anymore.

Do you know what my mother did? Instead of feeling sorry for herself and being sad, she turned it around. She gathered up some toys and extraneous Christmas presents and dropped them off to be donated to those who had lost theirs.

My mom not only turned her sadness around, she helped others do the same too. About seven months ago a good friend of the family passed away. It was and still is a tough loss on everybody. My mom knew this holiday season would be tough on her friend's family. So she invited them to help her collect gifts as well for the family that was affected by the fire. My mom helped others turn their sadness around and do something good for others. It can't erase the hurt they feel for their loss, but it can make them feel good about themselves.

When I came back to school, only two days after Christmas, I was a little sad to be leaving my friends and family so soon. I'm the only 21-year-old homesick girl I know. "You've got to turn it around," my mom said. "Do something good with your time and the sadness will disappear." So instead of missing home and wallowing in all the work I had to do, I got all of that work done so I was able to return home again for a few more days. I turned it around and made my mom and me happy.

With the beginning of a new year, I think this lesson is an important one to hold on to. Turn it around. Can you imagine what would happen if world leaders got advice from my mom? We'd be having dinner parties instead of wars.

So instead of stressing out about last semester's grades, turn it around. Do what you can with this semester. Don't worry that you blew your New Year's diet after only two weeks; turn it around. Start eating healthy again tomorrow.

Turning it all around doesn't mean you are denying yourself of getting those feelings out. It's using those feelings to do something worthwhile. Putting a smile on the faces of others will ultimately make you smile in return.

We've got a whole new semester ahead of us. Whether you're a freshman or a senior, treat it like a fresh start. Take the worries from the last semester and "Turn it around."

Sincerely,

Amy S. Bobrowski

Editor-in-Chief

Ring in the New Year with a friendly effort

By Andy Levine

Holidays are a time for celebration. New Year's Eve is probably as good a time as any to go out with people you enjoy being with and live it up to the fullest. No one should be alone on this night. Even if some people spend the night at home watching the well-seasoned Dick Clark count down to the new year, usually it is with someone whom they are close with.

I was lucky enough to spend the night with five close friends in a great bar outside of Boston. Being that it was our first New Year's Eve celebrations all being 21, a considerable amount of alcohol was decided to be the cure for a good New Year's festivity.

The night for us was great. We all danced, drank, and took comfort in the great strength of our friendships. One thing during the night that bothered me did not occur at the table we were sitting at, but the table next to us.

Sitting next to us was a table for two, with only one man waiting. We noticed the man early on in the night and some of us just wrote it off as he must be waiting for someone. To the back of our mind it crawled as we tried not to concern ourselves with anyone else who might dampen our night.

As 11:15 rolls around, the man is still at the table alone, spending his new years with not someone he cares for, but a despondent face and a half drank Corona. Again, we notice the man, and some

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The Point considers for publication letters to the editor on any topic of interest to the Fitchburg State College community. All submissions run at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief and are subject to editing for style and length.

All articles must be typed or legibly handwritten and include a name and a phone number, in case of questions.

Announcements should be short, including

dates, places, times, and a contact person.

The content of any article labeled Opinion, does not necessarily represent the views of The Point, its staff, or Fitchburg State College.

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2003: The year to be involved

By Tim Card

As 2003 begins and 2002 fades into memories, many of us will be left wondering what we should do during the new year. There are troubling times both behind us and ahead of us, as we face the specters of an economy with few jobs and the prospects of war. Rather than spending your time worrying, try to make the most of your opportunities in the new year.

As a student at Fitchburg State, you'll have opportunities to travel, to meet new people and to learn from experienced leaders. One of the keys to making the most of your time here is to get to know what's going on. Many events come and go, without attracting the notice of interested students. As you go place to place, look for things that could interest you and write them in on your calendar. Read *The Point*, and bulletin boards to see if anything is coming up. Talk with friends and acquaintances to see if anything interesting is coming up.

As a student here, I have been able to take advantage of many enjoyable trips. I went to St. Kitts and Nevis, with Dr. Hetzel's Caribbean Culture group, while paying almost nothing from my own pocket. I went on a dinosaur dig in Colorado and Utah, with the Geology Club. After our fund-raisers, we hardly had to spend very little on anything but our entertainment.

With Masspurg, many students have been able to go on weekend trips, here they learned new organizing skills and made new friends. Whatever your

interests, there is probably a group going on a trip you would enjoy.

You can also learn and have fun, by taking advantage of events and services on campus. This is one of your few opportunities to meet famous people for free and perhaps even get advice from them. You can go to movies or see bands, often without paying. By using the computers on campus, you can learn valuable job skills, even if you are not learning about them in the classes you are taking. We have access to a very good fitness center, a pool and a small nature reserve near McKay.

If you want to look up local events, try looking up the Calendar of Events at www.appleseed.org. By taking advantage of trips and opportunities, you'll be able to enjoy your time at Fitchburg State and prepare yourself for a happy and successful future.

Without the company of friends

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of us start questioning what is going on with him. We are not making fun, but showing a sympathetic concern for this somewhat lonely fella.

I express my apprehension to one of my female friends, and she says maybe we should ask him to chill with us for the night. This to me seemed like a great idea. I'll be honest; by that point my drunken self figured one more to the group could just enhance the good time we were already having. I tapped the guy on the shoulder and asked if he wanted to sit with us and maybe the next time we went out to dance if he wanted to join our group.

Politely, but a little shaken, he said no, he was fine. By this time, it was only about twenty minutes until 2002 was gone, and this guy was still sharing it with Mexican import beer. We all felt bad, but weren't going to let it bring us down. We went to the dance floor, celebrated the birth of 2003, and kept living it up.

About an hour into 2003, we went back to our table, and you guessed it, the guy was still alone. This time though, there were several tears pouring from his eyes. We all felt terrible.

Speculation then came into play. Did he get stood up? Is he just alone? Should we keep reaching out to him? Where is the waitress with our next round? The night was winding down, and this guy had no one to share it with. It was a truly sad sight.

I will hold many great memories from New Year's 2003 thanks to my friends. It was the best midnight celebration I have ever had. Luckily I was with people whom I cared for and who cared for me. The memory of the guy who sat alone with his beer will also unfortunately stay with me.

For the next year, I am hopeful of many things. I hope the Red Sox can actually do something this year. I hope spring semester goes smooth and successful. I hope the summer brings more days of comfort, than afternoons of heat exhaustion where moving makes you sweat profusely. I hope 2004 is as much fun coming in as 2003 was. Lastly, I hope the guy has a happy new year, and that he spends it with someone, even it just means a friend...watching Dick Clark and the ball drop. Happy New Year.





Eighty of the over 44,000 panel AIDS Quilt is now on display at FSC's Hammond Campus Center.

FSC displays AIDS Memorial Quilt

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Campus Center, SGA, WXPL, Nursing Student Association, Class of 2003, Class of 2006, 1 in 10 and Friends, Programs Committee, Latin American Student Organization, Sigma Sigma Sigma, Hammond Art Gallery and Student Affairs. The event is free and open to the public.



FSC Presents Dustin Diamond AKA Screech



Wed., Feb. 5
Percival Auditorium
9:00 p.m.

\$3 for Students, \$5 General Public

\$25: Dinner with Dustin and a Front Row Seat
(limited to 25 people)

Sponsors include SGA, Classes of 2003, 2005 and 2006,
Martial Arts Club, and Student Activities.

Calendar of events and activities

Films

"Philadelphia." Jan. 17, Ellis White Lecture Hall, 7 p.m.

"Blazing Saddles." Jan. 23, Ellis White Lecture Hall, 7 p.m.

Comedy

Dustin Diamond, Feb. 5, Percival, 9 p.m.

Comedian Hood, Feb. 11, Underground Pub, 9 p.m.

Special Events

AIDS Quilt Display, Jan 13-18, Hammond Campus Center. Opening ceremony, Jan. 15, noon.

Budget hearings for clubs and organizations, Jan. 22-24.

Alternative Spring Break Dinner, Jan. 22, Underground Pub, 4-6 p.m., \$10.

Tubing Trip to Amesbury Sports Park, Jan. 24, \$12. Sign up at the Info Desk.

Super Bowl Party, Jan. 26, Underground Pub.

Gallery Opening, Jan. 29, Hammond Art

Gallery

Night Skiing at Mt Wachusett, Jan 30. Leaves from Aubuchon Hall at 5 p.m.

Club Hammond: Video Dance Party and more, Jan. 31, Hammond Building.

Valentine Luncheon and Rose Sale, Feb. 13, Underground Pub, Sponsored by Alternative Spring Break.

Listings including date, time, location, admission fee, sponsor and contact telephone number may be sent by email to point@fsc.edu, or by campus mail to The Point, Hammond Building.

New alcohol classes not just for policy violators

BOSTON—(BUSINESS WIRE via COLLEGIATE PRESSWIRE)—Dec 3, 2002—Thousands of American youths entering college for the first time in 2002 are discovering there is a new component to their college education — an interdisciplinary course on alcohol.

College administrators increasingly concerned about high-risk drinking, especially by new students away from home for the first time, are making major investments in comprehensive, ongoing programs to educate students about the dangers of alcohol abuse. Determined to change the "culture of drinking" on college campuses, they are requiring alcohol education courses and instituting other programs to encourage students to change their own behavior.

A cornerstone of many schools' efforts this fall will be AlcoholEdu, an online alcohol education course delivered by Outside The Classroom, Inc., a Massachusetts-based health education company founded to address critical behavioral health issues. AlcoholEdu is an online course that students take in the privacy of their dorm rooms. Presenting valuable information in a non-opinionated format about the medical and social affects of drinking, the course empowers students to make more informed decisions about drinking — or not drinking at all.

"Rather than focusing on scare tactics and life-and-death scenarios related to alcohol, the pro-

gram bases its instruction on interdisciplinary applications of alcohol to brain science, sociology, history, and even mathematics," said Brandon Busted, founder of Outside The Classroom. "More than 100,000 students at over 300 institutions will take the AlcoholEdu course in 2002, making it one of the world's most widely used online education courses."

More than half of the 20 top-ranked universities in the annual U.S. News & World Report list of leading American colleges have partnered with Outside The Classroom to deliver the AlcoholEdu course to students. Schools using the program for their entire first-year classes include Dartmouth, Northwestern, Duke, Tufts, Villanova, and the University of Connecticut. They are only among a group of hundreds of schools that have integrated AlcoholEdu into their alcohol abuse prevention programs. Many of these schools are requiring that all first-year students take the course.

Paul Pugh, Dean of Students at Villanova University said, "After a year of use, we have been impressed with the AlcoholEdu's ability to suit these needs and with student feedback on the course. We therefore require all incoming freshmen to complete the course by the fall semester break."

World-renowned experts in the field of alcohol abuse prevention developed the AlcoholEdu

curriculum, which integrates many proven prevention methodologies, including the latest scientific research on the biological and sociological effects of drinking. AlcoholEdu consists of multimedia video and audio presentations, interactive applications, and personalized student feedback. Surveys and tests of students taken before and after the course indicate substantial increases in knowledge and positive changes in attitudes related to problem alcohol consumption, which is the first and most effective step toward short- and long-term behavior change.

In addition to courses instituted by college administrations, other influential groups, including national Greek-letter organizations, are initiating similar education programs. Kappa Alpha Theta, the nation's oldest sorority, with more than 150 chapters and 15,000 members, is requiring that all members of the sorority take the AlcoholEdu course.

"AlcoholEdu is effective because it meets the needs of students; it provides an intellectually-stimulating, non-opinionated education about alcohol — all at their convenience. For administrators, it is easy and cost-effective to implement on a massive scale," Busted said. "Outside The Classroom for the first time makes it practical to educate entire student bodies in ways that will change their behavior and the culture of the institution to which they belong."

Presidential Search Meeting

Friday, January 24, 2000

Location: Miller Oval

2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Programs HACC WXPL 91.3 FM
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C/O 2005

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Located in the M&M Lounge, Alumni Rooms, G-Lobby, and Underground Pub of the Hammond Campus Center

FREE Admission

Dancing, Food, Drinks, Contests

From stage to big screen, 'Chicago' has all that jazz

By Amy S. Bobrowski

Who knew prison could be so much fun? "Chicago," the musical, by the late Bob Fosse, has hit the screen with a bang. Starring Catherine Zeta Jones, Renee Zellweger, Queen Latifa, and Richard Gere, the film has little depth, but it's a show and has a magnificent surface.

The story takes place in Chicago in the 1920's when a mislead dame shoots her lover and goes to jail where she achieves her much sought after fame.

Renee Zellweger plays the killer (Roxie Hart), who seems more like the victim than a murderer thanks to her quick-mouthed defense lawyer, Billy Flynn (Gere).

In prison, Roxie meets her idol, the voluptuous jazz singer, Velma Kelly (Zeta Jones) only to compete with her for the attention of the media and their shared lawyer.

The tale depicts Roxie's double fantasy mind as it turns her sordid story turned into a mix of sparkling show tunes. The film version of the famous musical is better than expected. However, while Queen Latifa, playing the matron of the prison, is the only real musician, other characters have far better theater singing voices.

As Roxie, Zellweger wistfully carries tunes portraying her dreams of fame. Though "Chicago" is more of Roxie's story, Zeta Jones steals the show as Velma Kelly. Zeta Jones clearly has the body and belting voice of a true jazz singer. She is the mean ruthless character that everyone wants to be.

Richard Gere truly comes into his own on this film. Never before has he seemed so animated as when tap dancing in a pin-



Catherine Zeta Jones.

stripe suit that matches his sparkling silver hair. Christine Baranski, as reporter Mary Sunshine, also complements the cast quite well. Her zip and pizzazz fits in with the fast paced style of the show.

The classic choreography is spiced up with some modern dance moves flaunting scantily clad bodies. Musical numbers take on a mind of their own. Spotlights add to the true musical feel, when costumes sparkle as the stars spin in the glow.

Rated PG-13 for sexual content and dialogue, violence and thematic elements, "Chicago" was limitedly released on Dec. 27, just in time to make it for Oscar nominations. A wider release took place on Jan. 3, and the film's wide release will be on Jan. 24. See "Chicago," but don't let the 'good-girl-goes-bad-and-achieves-fame' theme let you think you can sing and dance yourself out of trouble.

'Catch' this film if you can



By Kristine McCaffrey

"A true story about a real fake," is the tagline to the movie about Frank Abignale Jr., a real teenage con artist, during the 1960's, who cashed millions of dollars in fake checks he made himself. He posed as an airline pilot, doctor and lawyer all before he turned 18 years old. The movie is "Catch Me If You Can."

This movie has all the makings of a holiday box office smash. Not only does it star Leonardo DiCaprio, Tom Hanks, Christopher Walken and Martin Sheen, but Steven Spielberg directed and produced it, along with Walter F. Parkes, and directed the flick.

Abignale Jr. (DiCaprio) is a James Bond type character, who runs around posing as employees in several careers, while also taking time out to charm women and others he meets with his cool and slick manner. FBI Agent Carl Hanratty (Hanks) is the one trying to catch him.

Hanks plays a foolish FBI Agent who is more successful in chasing his tail and exploring dead ends than actually catching his con artist. It makes one wonder if perhaps this actually might be a proper interpretation of how the real FBI operates. Walken and Sheen both have supporting roles; Walken as Frank Abignale Sr. and Sheen as our favorite con artist's soon to be father in law.

Hanks plays an more unusual supporting role than audiences are used to, but acts in usual fashion by playing a character to the best of his ability. He does not disappoint the audience, but may confuse them with his accent choice for the role, which geographically is difficult to place. Hanks never plays the same character twice, which is refreshing compared to some cookie cutter actors in Hollywood.

DiCaprio is charming, and girls, he's still adorable. Although the character of Abignale is a fast talking cheat and a liar, he is one in such a fashion that you can't help but admire and smile at through the film. In true James Bond style, it is an entertaining movie that contains quite a bit of humor and best of all is based on an actual person. Audiences might question bits and pieces of the movie that are difficult to believe which can probably be chalked up to Hollywood exaggeration. I give this movie a B+.

'Two Towers' rings in at box office

By Tim Card

"The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers" is the second installation of the epic trilogy written by J.R.R. Tolkien and adapted to the big screen by Peter Jackson. In the first movie, Frodo, played by Elijah Wood, discovers that his uncle's treasured magic ring is an evil thing, created to enslave all of mankind.

A fellowship of nine companions is formed, to destroy the Ring in the fires of Mount Doom. During the quest, the wizard Gandalf falls into the darkness and the warrior Boromir dies in a heroic last stand, after he tries to take the ring from Frodo. Frodo and his friend Sam leave the fellowship to destroy the ring themselves, before it lures anyone else with its power.

"The Two Towers" picks up, where the first film left off. We see the breathtaking vista of New Zealand's mountains, with distant echoes of Gandalf's fall. Then we see what actually happened to Gandalf, as he tumbles into the darkness with the flaming balrog, desperately trying to destroy the monstrous demon. This scene is one of many with stunning visual effects and sound quality.

There are many different stories going on at once in "The Two Towers," and they will be hard to follow, if you haven't seen "The Fellowship of the Ring." This movie doesn't leave significant parts of the story, like the first film did, but it seems to concentrate on Aragorn's relationship with Arwen, played beautifully by Liv Tyler, much more. The film juxtaposes astound-

ing beauty and hideous ugliness, magnifying both quite effectively.

One character who steals the show is Gollum, a small gangly creature, who was driven mad by the ring. Gollum has been described by several critics as the best computer-generated character of all time. He evokes many feelings in people, from revulsion to empathy. The audience especially loved Gollum's confrontation with his inner demon.

The story revolves around the heroic ranger Aragorn, Gimli the Dwarf and Legolas the elf, who are trying to find a pair of hobbits taken away by the bestial orcs. Frodo and Sam are bringing the One Ring to Mount Doom, when the creature Gollum attacks them. Among the other new characters introduced in this film is the despicable Wormtongue, a vile adviser to the rather Shakespearian King Theoden. Wormtongue is really the servant of the diabolical wizard Saruman, an ally of the Dark Lord. Wormtongue lusts after a heroic beauty named Eowyn, the King's niece. Saruman sends an army of ten-thousand of his horrid creations, the Uruk Hai, to ravage



ring, which lured his brother to his untimely death. He takes the pair to the ruins of Osgilliath, where a ringwraith on a frightening draconic steed comes for Frodo.

Some of the best parts of the movie include the Battle of Helm's Deep, Gandalf fighting the balrog and Aragorn's confrontation with the White Wizard. There are some fine special effects in the Dead Marshes and at Saruman's tower of Isengard, as well. The characters are well developed, though Theoden seems excessively melodramatic.

There is also a lot of humor in this film, mostly at the expense of Gimli, the dwarf. Some of the new characters will be important in the next movie, especially Gollum and Eowyn, who may have the best scene, if the book is any indication.

The Battle of Helm's Deep took several

Rohan, while Aragorn tries to convince Theoden to fight for his people.

In nearby Gondor, Boromir's brother, Faramir is coordinating guerilla attacks against the Dark Lord's armies. He captures Frodo and Sam and is confronted with the power of the

months to film, and it may be the largest battle scene ever committed to film. The whole trilogy was filmed together, in New Zealand over the course of three years.

The Two Towers took in \$61.5 million on its first weekend, making over four times more than any other film that weekend. It made nearly \$190 million worldwide in five days and may become the second movie after Titanic to gross over \$1 billion at the box office. The first film grossed \$860 million worldwide.

The final movie, "The Return of the King," should be out next December. In this film, the hobbits will do more fighting, against some very formidable creatures. The Battle of the Pelinore Fields is bound to be spectacular: especially the Dark Lord's secret weapon and the Witch King of Angmar. The Phial of Galadriel should have some impressive visual effects, and Aragorn's challenge at the Towers of the Teeth should be very dramatic.

Though "The Two Towers" was nominated for two Golden globe awards, "The Return of the King" will probably be the big winner, because it dramatically completes the saga. Peter Jackson has a good chance to win best director at the Golden Globes and Oscars, while the special effects have an excellent chance at the Oscars. Look for digital creation Gollum to win some graphic design awards, as well. The visual effects were produced by WETA digital, New Zealand's foremost visual effects studio. If you liked "The Fellowship of the Rings" you will probably like "The Two Towers" even better

Hold on to Avril's 'Let Go'

By Kristine McCaffrey

For Christmas a friend of mine got Avril Lavigne's debut, triple-platinum album called "Let Go." He didn't want it so Avril ended up coming home to Arlington with me for winter break. I, being skeptical of the 18 year old who came on the music scene in May, didn't pick up the album until one sleepless night.

I was familiar with Lavigne's campy and simplistic video for her first single "Complicated" and I yes, I have been caught singing her skater boy song (spelled "Sk8ter Boi" on the album) in the dorms. I didn't really understand Lavigne. I knew that she belonged to the group of young solo female songwriters (including Michelle Branch and Vanessa Carlton), but then I thought

to myself, how difficult could it have been to write the silly and simplistic "Sk8ter Boi?"

I also realized that Lavigne resembled a girl I went to high school with, which I think subconsciously turned me away from her. And then those questions of why she wears a tie and whether or not she's Arista's creation of a singing skater chick, went through my mind.

Arista Records did Lavigne an injustice by releasing those two songs as singles. Those two songs do not even scratch the surface of this young singer/songwriter's talent. Songs like "Anything, But Ordinary," "My World," and "Too Much To Ask For" are songs that will probably never hit the radio waves, but are some of the best songs on the album.

Her lyrics deal with deep emotions of anger,

love, confusion, her life. Surprisingly they do not need the lyrics "Avril from the block" to make them feel real. Her voice is strong, sharp and are delivered with sincerity that give a goose bump effect to the listener. She reminds me of a mini Alanis Morissette with her life reflective lyrics, or maybe it's just the Canadian accent (she is from Ontario). Lavigne, in her liner notes, credits her ex-boyfriends with giving her inspiration for her songs.

This isn't a party or dance album. It's an album you listen to while doing your homework or after a tough day. It's an album you listen to for a purpose. I'm glad "Let Go" found its way to my CD player and hopefully Lavigne will have enough longevity in the future to stay there.

New Director takes on FSC admissions

By Kristine McCaffrey

"I want to protect and promote an admissions process that is ethical, full of integrity and that is professional overall," said the busy new Director of Admissions, Lynn Petrillo."

Lynn Petrillo came on board to the FSC admissions staff as Director of Admissions this past fall. "I started in the third week of October," Petrillo explains, "which is the middle of the travel season in admissions. That's when you're out on the road pro-actively recruiting students. Jumping in during the middle of that season was chaotic, but so far my experience here has been great." Petrillo came to FSC from her position of Director of Admissions at Rivier College, in Nashua, New Hampshire, where she worked from 1997-2000.

What was Petrillo doing from 2000 until now? She was working on getting her MBA in graduate school. Petrillo decided to come to FSC because she was looking for a larger, public, New England school. "Rivier is a small, private, Catholic school which is the type of school I have been

working in all along up until I went to graduate school. I wanted a job where I could work on undergraduate and graduate admissions. Working on both here at FSC allows me to stretch my wings. I was looking for a school with a director's job that would allow me to build on my experience from Rivier, but also begin to do more."

Petrillo's new job here at FSC will have her dealing with more applications than at her old school, but she feels that admissions staff makes her job very enjoyable. "The staff here in the admissions office is wonderful. They are really dedicated to Fitchburg State and are committed to making sure they bring in a class that is going to succeed and enjoy it here and will add to the student body that is already here. They seem really anxious to continue to do what they have been doing that has been successful, but also are anxious to try new things."

Petrillo also enjoys other staff members of the college. "People outside of this office; faculty and other staff, have been very welcoming also

are also interested in working with admissions to ensure that the future of their college. This is good because that's not necessarily the case at every school."

Petrillo stands by and supports her staff 100%. "I want to help my staff develop as professionals whether this is their first job or their tenth job. If one of my staff members is interested in climbing the ladder and one day becoming Director of Admissions I want to provide them with professional opportunities and the opportunity to grow here at FSC."

Overall Petrillo wants to make sure she is serving the college as Director of Admissions to the best of her ability. "I want to make sure that I'm meeting the enrollment goals of the college. Not only is it about a certain number of students that you want to have, but what type of students, such as students with diverse backgrounds and interests. I want to fill the enrollment goals in terms of the majors that we have as well."

Good prices and great eats at Village Pizza

By Christina Charron

Tired of the same old fast-food restaurants? Looking for a quick meal that's inexpensive? Well, head over to Village Pizza located at King's Corner in Leominster. They offer a variety of choices on the menu ranging from a personal pizza (\$3) to a large, seventeen by twenty-five in party pizza (\$19.95-one topping, all tax included). Along with the traditional pie, Village Pizza also offers a deep-dish pizza. All pizzas can be crated with their own home-made tomato sauce, which includes a blend of Italian seasonings, or their white sauce, which features a blend of garlic and herbs. Either makes for an excellent choice.

Village Pizza also has a wide variety of specialty pies ranging from Primavera to Asparagus, Hawaiian, Stuffed and even Uncooked. Although these tend to

be more expensive than regular pizza, (on average \$3 more) they are very much worth their price. The Pizza di Pollo is a popular choice amongst customers.

If you are not in the mood for pizza, Village Pizza also serves subs, salads, pasta, and vegetarian lasagna. Pasta lovers have a choice of ziti, ravioli, or lasagna served with sauce or with additional items such as meatballs, sausage, chicken or veal. These entrees range from as little as \$3.75 (ziti with tomato sauce) to \$7.75 (lasagna with veal).



Aside from their pizza and pasta, Village Pizza also offers a range of subs in substantial portions in either a small or large size sub. Prices are as low as \$3 for a small American (mortadella, ham, salami, American cheese), to \$5.10 for a large, to \$6

for a small Prosciutto, \$7.50 for a large. They have almost any kind of grinder you could ever want. All subs include onions, lettuce, tomatoes and pickles. Upon request, cheese, mayonnaise, mustard, oil and vinegar, hot peppers and pepperoni can be added to any sub.

You can spice up any of your choices with a garden salad (\$3.25), antipasto (\$5), or roasted peppers (\$5). Add more to your garden salad with crabmeat, tuna, turkey or chicken (all \$5.50).

Village Pizza is happy to deliver to your door. Dining in or dining out, Village Pizza is a great choice for your next meal. With its wide variety of choices, casual atmosphere, friendly employees and reasonable costs, it makes for not only an enjoyable meal, but also affordable one. Bon Appetit!

Up, up and away

By James Lang

You push the throttle and allow yourself to slowly gain speed. When you hit the proper velocity, you pull the control stick back and become airborne. You are now flying. You are able to soar around the tall mountains and above the deep oceans, small towns and big cities, enjoying the thrill of being a pilot.

If having an experience like this has been one of your dreams, you may want to visit the FAC Flight Center. FAC is the name of the current company owning the Airport, however former owners used to call the site Fitchburg Colonial Aviation Flight Center.

FAC Flight Center is located at the Fitchburg Airport. They specialize in flight training, aircraft rentals, repairs and inspections. Currently they have two Cessna 172's, two Cessna 152's and a Pace Arrow available for rent and training experiences. They also have plans to expand their fleet with at new Cessna 172 with built-in weather radar. The Flight Center staff includes five full-time and several part-time instructors, which allows you to fly whenever you desire.

The rates for renting planes range from \$52 an hour for a two-seat aircraft to \$82 an hour for a high-powered four-seat aircraft. These rates are about the same as those of other local flight schools. An instructor costs \$25 for and hour for in-flight training and \$35 for ground school. The cost for the in-flight training is average for this area, but the ground school is a little pricey.

The aircraft are kept in extremely good condition, with all of the systems working properly and very little down time or cancelled flights due to mechanical problems. The two Cessna 152's have basic visual flight instruments.

These aircraft are good for basic training needed for a private pilot's license and cross-country flights because they have low rental rates. The two Cessna 172's have all the necessary equipment for learning instrument flight rules and one of them has a supercharged engine and a global posi-



Cessna 172's like the one pictured above, are available for rent at the FAC Flight Center at Fitchburg Airport.

tioning system receiver for more advanced maneuvers and higher speeds on long cross-country flights.

The instructors are very knowledgeable. They are current on all the regulations required for different flight certificates and know what will be asked of you for both the practical and written parts of the test.

When I took my test, I was able to pass both parts with scores well above the standards set forth by the FAA. The skillful instructors are able to

help their students grasp very complex theories in very short amounts of time.

They also provide extra learning aids to pilots who are having trouble with subjects. For example, if a student pilot was having trouble with the theories of drag, they would either spend more time in ground school helping the individual one on one, or let him borrow books or videos on the subject. They will offer a tailor-made lesson plan based on the individual's needs and learning style.

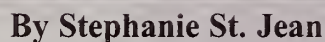
I have personally flown with this company for four years and all that I have received was good service. Instructors will set up special flight times depending on when you are able to fly and not depending on when they feel like flying. The staff always greets you with a smile and makes you feel like a valued customer.

FCA Flight Center can be contacted at (978) 345-0373 where you can sign up for a flight. Their "introduction to flight" lesson costs only \$40. I highly recommend this company to anyone who starting an aviation career, becoming a recreational pilot or just wants to try something new. Happy flying.

[illegible]

One of Those Days

By Jillian Places



Be a friend,
look at me,
and see what your words have done.

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Tuesday, January 28, against Nichols at 7:00 pm

Saturday, February 1, against UMASS Dartmouth at 7:00 pm



Women's Basketball Games:

Saturday, January 18, against Salem State at 3:00 pm

Tuesday, January 28, against Framingham State at 6:00 pm

Saturday, February 1, against Bridgewater State at 1:00 pm

Tuesday, February 4, against Worcester State at 6:00 pm

Men's Basketball:

Saturday, January 18, against Salem State at 5:00 pm

Tuesday, January 21, against Mount Ida at 5:00 pm

Tuesday, January 28, against Framingham State at 8:00 pm

Saturday, February 1, against Bridgewater State at 3:00 pm

Tuesday, February 4, against Worcester State at 8:00 pm



FSC student named Rookie of the Year

Congratulations to Fitchburg State College's Dave McDonnell, who earned the ECAC Northeast Rookie of the Year award as a running back for the Falcons this season. The freshman rushed 183 times for 901 yards and had four touchdowns. He was named the New England Football Conference Offensive Rookie of the Year.

Openings at:

The Point

Writers, Photographer, Editors, Layout
and Design.

Meetings held Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. in
The Point office, room BC17 (basement
of the Hammond Building).

Or email us at:

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SPECIAL INTRAMURAL WRAP-UP

DeBarros and Davis Lead the Muresans to the A Division Basketball Championship

By Skip Daily IV

The Blazas showed heart, battling through the losers bracket to make it to the Championship game, but the Muresans proved too strong and talented.

Manny DeBarros set the tone early, grabbing ten boards in the first ten minutes of the game.

Chris Ramsdell, captain of the Blazas said, "I don't know how to stop that guy. He is a beast on the boards!" Davis also ran the show from the point, racking up a triple double. (13 points, 10 assists, 11 steals)

These two super stars were supported by a great group of players including Tim Calvao, Pat

Hart, Jon Holm, and Brian Murphy.

After the game, Holm said, "The two Free Agent acquisitions of Shiz Davis and Manny DeBarros was the key to our season. They brought talent and hustle to an already strong team. We couldn't have done it without out them."



Mean Street defeat the Boozers in an intense indoor soccer championship

By Skip Daily IV

He was like a one man wrecking crew. You knew when he did a summersault and blasted in under the cross bar that the Boozers had no chance. Who am I talking about? Dan McPherson. He scored 10 of Mean Street's 11 goals on the way to a 1-goal victory.

Although the McGuanne brothers played well, scoring five goals each, it was not enough to stop the gritty play of John Hurley, Red Martin, Kristy Howell, Andrea Nykiel and McPherson. Although McPherson was named MVP, a special mention should go to Peter Daoust.

Daoust's fearless net play kept the Mean Street in the game and made some big saves towards the end. It was tied with 30 seconds left but the Boozers could not hold off the Mean Street's intense pressure to force the game to overtime.

Congratulations to all that played in this intense competition.

Big Sticks Hold Off Pete Less to Win the 2002 Floor Hockey Championship

By Skip Daily IV

Corey Medieros' team proved who had the biggest sticks by winning their league games by an average of seven goals. When it came to the Championship game Pete Less, lead by Jeff Godin, had a different outcome in mind. It was a classic battle. No team could better the other by more than two goals throughout the game.

Regulation time ended in a 10-10 tie, which meant it was sudden death overtime! Chris Dellasio of Pete Less had the first great opportunity, but was stoned by the Big Sticks net minder Mike Martell. After that, Medieros took the game into his own hands and smoked Myles Kovac with a wrister from the point.

Other contributors in the win were Mike Denro, Chris Dove, Jeff Goodwin, Pete Newton, and Chris Witkowski. Both teams are commended for playing with intensity and sportsmanship!

Captain Morgans Defeats a scrappy Not 0-12 team to win the Division B Men's Basketball Championship

By Skip Daily IV

Lead by high scorer Tim Calveo and Brian (Dirk) Murphy, the Captain Morgans took it to Not 0-12.

Not 0-12 lived up to its name by fighting its way to the Championship Game with hustle and heart. Once making it to the Championship the test proved to hard to pass. Captain Morgans were the #1 seed entering the playoffs and they did not disappoint.

The consistent play John Holm, Pat Hart, Mike Edwards, Dave Guilmette, Levi Remnick and Jon Messier supported the Nash/Nowitski like tandem of Calveo and Murphy. Congratulations for a great season to these awesome competitors.